



# LONGMONT ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



The *Longmont Astronomical Society*, a nonprofit educational organization, was founded in 1987 to enhance public awareness of amateur astronomy. The society's activities include lectures on various astronomical topics and related space sciences at local schools and other organizations, monthly public observing sessions, and monthly meetings featuring select speakers. The society serves the Boulder, Estes Park, Longmont, and Loveland areas.

**Goals:** The *LAS* keeps the general public informed about current events in astronomy and the space sciences by sharing the experiences and knowledge of its members. *LAS* members are available for lectures and to provide materials to local schools as requested.

## Benefits:

- ▶ Monthly meetings with presentations by professionals and members on topics of general interest.
- ▶ A monthly newsletter to keep members informed about astronomy topics and upcoming events.
- ▶ Ability to check out and use club-owned resources. These include books, slide sets, videos, and other educational materials as well as a high quality 10" telescope, a solar telescope, and related astronomical instruments.
- ▶ A web site to display club information, announcements, and member astrophotos.
- ▶ *LAS* "star parties" where members share first-hand views of celestial wonders through their telescopes.
- ▶ Discounts on astronomy related products through publishers and local retailers.
- ▶ Membership in the *Astronomical League*. Each member will receive the *REFLECTOR*, the quarterly newsletter of the Astronomical League and will be eligible to participate in Astronomical League activities.
- ▶ Field trips to local planetariums, observatories, and firms that manufacture astronomical equipment.
- ▶ Opportunities to observe with other astronomy groups around the country and around the world.

**Society Interests:** *LAS* members have diverse interests, experiences, and equipment. They enjoy using their equipment to observe and photograph the moon, sun, comets, galaxies, star clusters, variable stars, novae, nebulae, planets, and satellites. Besides an active observing program, members put their skills to work building their own telescopes and accessories. Many use computers as aids in their hobby.

**Long Term Objectives:** The *LAS* is currently seeking a permanent dark observing site for construction of a club-owned observatory that will be available for use by society members and for public observing sessions.

**Membership:** Membership in the *LAS* is open to all people with an interest in furthering their understanding of our universe. Participation in all *LAS* events is encouraged, and ***it is not necessary to own any optical instruments***. Annual dues are \$20. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Longmont Christian School, 550 Coffman, Longmont.

**Information:**

- ▶ **LONGMONT ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**, Box 8029, Longmont CO 80501
- ▶ [http://laps.fsl.noaa.gov/cgi/albers\\_las.homepage.cgi](http://laps.fsl.noaa.gov/cgi/albers_las.homepage.cgi)
- ▶ phone Bob Spohn, 303-772-1470